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**FISH-HOOKS IN AFRICA
AND THEIR
DISTRIBUTION**

BY

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FISH-HOOKS IN AFRICA AND THEIR DISTRIBUTION

As in the present treatise it is only proposed to deal with the matter of the occurrence of the fish-hook in Africa with a view to determining whether or no it is native of that continent, the author passes over as unimportant the various ways in which fish-hooks are used, i. e., whether in connection with fishing-rod, longline, ledger-tackle, or kindred apparatus. This would besides be unnecessary, since — as previously has been mentioned¹ another student is carrying out researches into African fishing methods, when presumably due regard will be given to the various uses of fish-hooks. It should moreover be noted that no claims are made as to this treatise being exhaustive, which besides would be quite out of question as the Swedish libraries are not adequately equipped with the requisite literature.

Distribution of fish-hooks in Africa.

If we begin with the western coast of Africa we find — as might be expected — fish-hooks at the well-known fishing communities of Rabat and Salé,² although as regards these places it should be remembered that "les industries de la mer furent importées d'Espagne au début du XVII:e siècle".³ On the other hand hooks are not employed by the inhabitants of

¹ T. Leth and K. G. Lindblom: Two kinds of fishing implements (Riksmuseets Etnografiska Avdelning. Smärre Meddelanden, N:r 11), p. 28.

² L. Brunot: La mer dans les traditions et les industries indigènes à Rabat et Salé. Diss. Paris 1920. P. 190.

³ Brunot: *Op. cit.* P. 312.

Tagent and Hodh (Mauretania)⁴ but they occur in Senegal among the Wolof (in St. Louis), Lebous and Serer, and also in a good many places along the coast, including Dakar.⁵ The hooks are either European or at any rate of European shape,⁶ which also holds good as regards the Kasonge.⁷ There are further instances from the Bambara (in the neighbourhood of Kayes and Mopti),⁸ the Tyouballo⁹ and the Bobo Oulé.¹⁰ To the "kingdom of Gambia" the Dutch, in the 17th century, exported fish-hooks.¹¹

As regards Gambia and Portuguese Guinea, mention is made of hooks although no locality is specified,¹² but Dr G. Svensson has informed me that the Mandingo, Wolof and other tribes along the Gambia made use of imported hooks.¹³ Among the Kassange¹⁴ and Balante¹⁵ fish-hooks are unknown.

In French Guinea fish-hooks occur among the Susu in Konakry,¹⁶ and the Baga on Rio Nunez, as well as evidently being very common on the coast, where they are of English or French type.¹⁷ In Liberia instances are found among the

⁴ *R. Arnaud*: Chasseurs et pêcheurs du Tagant et du Hodh. La Géographie 1906. P. 149.

⁵ Dr Rivi re has kindly informed me that the Trocad ro Museum possesses a fish-hook from the Lebous in Dakar (31. 74. 24). Letter dated 22. 12. 33.

⁶ *A. Gruvel*: L'Industrie des P ches sur la C te Occidentale d'Afrique. Paris 1913. P. 34.

⁷ *C. Monteil*: Les Khassonge. Paris 1915. P. 95.

⁸ Trocad ro 31. 74. 297; 31. 74. 1232.

⁹ " 31. 74. 340; 31. 74. 372. In the neighbourhood of Kayes.

¹⁰ " 31. 74. 1132. In the neighbourhood of Sau.

¹¹ *D. O. Dapper*: Description de l'Afrique, Amsterdam 1686. P. 240.

¹² *Gruvel*: *Op. cit.* P. 34. As for Gambia, cf. *Reece*: The Gambia. London 1912. P. 267.

¹³ Cf. *G. Svensson*: Fresh water fishes from the Gambia river. Kungliga Svenska Vetenskapsakademiens Handlingar. Tredje Serien. Band 12. Stockholm 1934. P. 20.

¹⁴ *H. A. Bernatzik*:  thiopien des Westens I. Wien 1933. P. 37.

¹⁵ *Bernatzik*: *Op. cit.* P. 84.

¹⁶ *Godel*: Ethnographie des Soussous. L'Anthropologie 1892. P. 178. Cf. *Gruvel*: *op. cit.* (L'Industrie). P. 39.

¹⁷ *Gruvel*: *Op. cit.* P. 39.

Gola,¹⁸ who themselves manufacture their hooks while the Gbande, Toma and Gissi (Kissi)¹⁹ until lately were unacquainted with hooks. Dr. Germann kindly has informed me that he only observed European hooks in Liberia, "soweit dort überhaupt die Angelei betrieben wurde". (Letter of 7. 10. 33.). In this connection it may be mentioned that hooks are also reported from the coast of Sierra Leone.²⁰ Further Mr. Hornell has kindly informed me that "so far as I know they (the hooks) are all bought at the present day from the European stores. This applies primarily to those used by the coastal or marine fishermen. As to the interior I am unable to say, but again I am of opinion that at present day all hooks are purchased at the European stores which cover the country in a network".²¹

If next we turn to the Ivory Coast, instances are given from the Accra (of Tabou) and the Fanti, who are scattered in large numbers along the coast, e. g., in Tabou, Bereby, S. Pedro, Grand Drewin, Sassandra, and other places.²²

One the lagoons along the eastern portion of the coast region²³ hooks are also known among the Agni,²⁴ Ebries, Aboures²⁵ and among the Lobi²⁶ farther inland. Among the lastmentioned, at any rate, the European form of the implement is recognizable, and the hooks have been brought to them by Mandingo traders.

¹⁸ D. Westermann: Die Kpelle. Göttingen 1921. P. 478.

¹⁹ P. Germann: Die Völkerstämme im Norden von Liberia. Leipzig 1933. P. 38. No hooks are, on the other hand, mentioned by Johnston (Liberia).

²⁰ J. Hornell: The indigenous fishing methods of Sierra Leone. Sierra Leones Studies 1928. P. 15.

²¹ Letter dated 28. 2. 34.

²² Gruvel: *Op. cit.* P. 57. Cf. de Fleury: La Pêche sur la Côte d'Ivoire. La Géographie 1913. P. 306. According to him, hooks are used also on the Gold Coast, although no particular tribe is named.

²³ Gruvel: *Op. cit.* P. 57.

²⁴ M. Delafosse: Les Agni, L'Anthropologie 1893. P. 421. Cf. Gruvel *op. cit.* P. 57.

²⁵ Gruvel: *Op. cit.* P. 57.

²⁶ H. Labouret: Les Tribus du Rameau Lobi. Paris 1931. P. 126.

Hooks are used by the Apollonia and the Fanti²⁷ along the Gold Coast, at Lake Basomtwe farther inland,²⁸ and by the Ewe²⁹ and Guang³⁰ of Togo, the Ewe occasionally making their own hooks, although it should be noted that the fish-hook was unknown in Togo prior to its introduction by Europeans. That fish-hooks are used a rather long time along the Gold Coast may be gathered from Hulsius who writes: "sie werden gefangen mit einem Seyl, an welches sie 3 oder 4 Fischangeln mit Aas hencken", and in supplementation he gives an illustration showing how it is done.³¹ Hooks are also mentioned by Bosman, who states: "leurs instruments de pêche sont de petits hameçons..."³² The Adja, Popo, Mina³³ and Fon,³⁴ all of Dahomey (the lastmentioned located on the lagoons at Porto Novo), are acquainted with the use of fish-hooks that, in their case, originate in Europe, as also appears from illustrations.³⁵

²⁷ *Gruvel: Op. cit.* P. 76. The Fanti were the first to manufacture hooks for fishing in the sea. *G. Macdonald: The Gold Coast, past and present.* New York 1898. P. 56.

²⁸ *M. Maclaren: Lake Basumtwi, Ashanti. The Geographical Journal* 1931. P. 376. It may also be mentioned that in earlier days fishing with hooks was forbidden at Lake Basomtwe. *R. S. Ruttray: Ashanti.* Oxford 1932. P. 61.

²⁹ *H. Klose: Togo, Berlin* 1899. P. 261. Cf. *Gruvel: Op. cit.* P. 78. *H. Seidel: Der Fischfang in Togo. Globus* 1902. P. 113. Cf. *D. Westermann: Kindheitserinnerungen des Togonegers Bonifatius Foli. Mitteilungen des Seminars für Orientalische Sprachen zu Berlin* 1931. P. 13.

³⁰ *D. Westermann: Guang-Texte. Mitteilungen des Seminars für Orientalische Sprachen* 1932. P. 45. "Die Nkunyaleute selber verstehen nicht Angeln zu schmieden, sie kaufen sie bei den Haussa." Prof. B. Struck has drawn my attention to this work. (Letter dated 7. 12. 33).

³¹ *L. Hulsius: Siebende Schiffahrt in das goldreiche Königreich Guineam in Afrika gelegen. Franckfurt am Mayn. MDCXXIV.* P. 139.

³² *G. Bosman: Voyage de Guinée. Utrecht* 1705. P. 135. Cf. *P. E. Isert: Neue Reise nach Guinea und den Caraibäischen Inseln in Amerika. Berlin* 1790. P. 188.

³³ *Gruvel: Op. cit.* P. 82.

³⁴ *Gaillard: Etude sur les Lacustres du Bas-Dahomey. L'Anthropologie* 1907. P. 122.

³⁵ *E. Foà: Le Dahomey. Paris* 1895. Pl. II, No. 11. So far as I can see no indication is given as to what tribe the hook pictured there belongs to.

Many instances are known from Nigeria. Thus fish-hooks are mentioned from the Yoruba, Ijaw, Edo, Ibo,³⁶ Hausa,³⁷ and Jukun,³⁸ while they seem to have been absent in certain northern districts of the colony.³⁹ Judging by everything, the Jukun have been influenced by the Hausa, as at all events such fishing implements as are fitted with hooks are known by the Hausa names *marimari*, or *mamari*, and *yan zube*, although the latter also is called by the Jukun name *kpwesá*.⁴⁰ The Yoruba use English hooks (Meek) and those of the Ijaw, Edo and Ibo (as well as the Yoruba) are, according to Talbot, also of European manufacture.

In the Cameroons, hooks are used by the Bapuko⁴¹ (subjects of the Batanga), the inhabitants of the Ossidinge district⁴² as well as the Banjo,⁴³ Ománd, Bafia,⁴⁴ Wute⁴⁵ and Balom⁴⁶ — the last-mentioned on the western shore of the Mbam. The Ománd brought the hooks to the Bafia⁴⁷ and among the Wute this method of fishing was unknown before the arrival of the

³⁶ A. Talbot: The Peoples of Southern Nigeria III. London 1926. P. 918. For Ijaw. Cf. R. Granville and F. Roth: Notes on the Jekris, Sobas and Ijos of the Warri District of the Niger Coast Protectorate. Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute 1899. P. 114. For the Ibo of the Asaba district. Cf. N. W. Thomas: Report on the Ibo-speaking peoples of Nigeria IV. London 1914. P. 186.

³⁷ C. K. Meek: The northern tribes of Nigeria, London 1925. P. 112. Mentions also the Yoruba. As for the Hausa, see also H. Hartmann: Ethnographische Studie über die Baja. Zeitschrift für Ethnologie 1927. P. 34. Gruvel: (*Op. cit.*, p. 94) says that hooks are used along the coast.

³⁸ C. K. Meek: A Sudanese Kingdom. London 1932. P. 419. Dr. Baumann has informed me that the Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin, possesses a Jukun-line with several unbarbed hooks. (Letter dated 11. 5. 34.)

³⁹ A. J. N. Tremearne: The Tailed Head-Hunters of Nigeria. London 1912. P. 292. "So far as I know, there is no fishing with a baited hook."

⁴⁰ C. K. Meek: 1932. P. 423.

⁴¹ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin. Unbarbed hook.

⁴² A. Mansfeld: Urwald-dokumente. Berlin 1904. P. 82.

⁴³ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin. Unbarbed hook.

⁴⁴ G. Tessmann: Die Bafia. Stuttgart 1934. P. 20.

⁴⁵ J. Sieber: Die Wute. Berlin 1925. P. 17.

⁴⁶ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin. Unbarbed hook.

⁴⁷ Tessmann: 1934. Pp 20, 30. The Bafiaboy has 'small fish-hooks, but they are "erst kürzlich aufgefunden"'. (P. 30).

whites in the country. The Baja⁴⁸ have received theirs from the Hausa, while the Lakka⁴⁹ do not possess any fish-hooks at all. On the other hand, hooks occur among the Mbaka-Limba⁵⁰ as well as the Mbum,⁵¹ where they are called *boi*, and are made of iron. Among the Bakoko⁵² their presence appears due to European influence and they also occur among the Ngumba-Mabea⁵³ and Bule⁵⁴ (Southern Cameroons). In addition the Ethnographical section of the Riksmuseum possesses a fishing rod with line and hook (S. S. f. A. o. G. 936), fig. 1, and a line with hook (S. S. f. A. o. G. 949), brought from the Cameroons by Dr. Dusén, though unfortunately lacking data as regards locality. I have also been informed by Dr. Germann that the Museum für Völkerkunde in Leipzig possesses an European fish-hook from the Southern Cameroons, and a drawing of this object was kindly placed at my disposal, fig. 2.⁵⁵

Small boys of both the Fang and the Ntum⁵⁶ are acquainted with fishing with hook and line just as adults, too, of the Fang, Ntum and Jaunde⁵⁷ use these appliances, the last—mentioned even maintaining that they possessed hooks before the Europeans came into their country. Hooks are further used by the Benga, who possess Europeans fish-hooks, or "the

⁴⁸ H. Harttmann: *Op. cit.*, p. 34. Cf. A. Gruvel: *La Pêche dans la Pré-histoire, dans l'Antiquité et chez les peuples primitifs*. Paris 1928. P. 105.

⁴⁹ G. Tessmann: *Die Mbaka-Limba, Mbum und Lakka*. Zeitschrift für Ethnologie 1928. P. 313.

⁵⁰ G. Tessmann: *Op. cit.* P. 313.

⁵¹ G. Tessmann: *Op. cit.* P. 325.

⁵² Das deutsche Kolonialreich. Herausgegeben von H. Meyer. I. Ostafrika und Kamerun. Leipzig und Wien 1909. P. 147. Cf. E. Krause: *Vorgeschichtliche Fischereigeräte und neuere Vergleichsstücke*. Berlin 1904. P. 82.

⁵³ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin. Unbarbed hook.

⁵⁴ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin. Unbarbed hook.

⁵⁵ Letter dated 17. 10. 33. Collection Siebert M. A. F. 17 755.

⁵⁶ G. Tessmann: *Die Pangwe I*. Berlin 1913. P. 111. Cf. Gruvel: *Op. cit.* P. 102.

⁵⁷ G. Tessmann: *Op. cit.* P. 111. Cf., for the river Ngunie: R. Avelot et H. Gritty: *La chasse et la pêche dans les forêts de L'Ogoue*. L'Anthropologie 1913. P. 667. A. Gruvel: *La pêche*. P. 106.

simple bent pins of our youth".⁵⁸ Instances are also known from the Loango,⁵⁹ Orongo,⁶⁰ and other tribes of the coast region of French Congo, as well as from the Banda⁶¹ farther inland. It may be mentioned that during the years 1907—1909 there were imported into French Congo 164, 122 and 266 kilogrammes of fish-hooks, respectively.⁶² The Pygmies of this colony also use European hooks, which are in great demand, although comparatively scarce.⁶³ Fish-hooks are further known to the Boumali⁶⁴ and Tombori,⁶⁵ and on the Lake Lere⁶⁶ in the Chad district (Mundang). The Mundang also use unbarbed double hooks,⁶⁷ fig. 3.

As early as the 17th century, fish-hooks constituted one of the most important articles exported by the Dutch and the Portuguese into the ancient kingdom of Congo.⁶⁸ In the Riksmuseum collections are found some fish-hooks of European type from the Basundi (Laman 737). There are further instances from the Babwende,⁶⁹ who use iron hooks which are usually bought from traders, and from the Musserongo,⁷⁰

⁵⁸ *M. H. Kingsley*: West African Studies. London 1899. P. 102.

⁵⁹ *H. Peschuel-Loesche*: Volkskunde von Loango. Stuttgart 1907. P. 208. "Angeln... wird nirgends verboten". Cf. *Gruvel*: 1913. P. 102.

⁶⁰ *Gruvel*: *Op. cit.* P. 102.

⁶¹ *P. Daigre*: Les Bandas de l'Oubangui-Chari (Afrique Équatoriale Française). *Anthropos* 1931. P. 173.

⁶² *A. Gruvel*: *Op. cit.* P. 102.

⁶³ *Trilles*: Les Pygmées de la forêt équatoriale. Paris 1932. P. 466.

⁶⁴ *G. Bruel*: Notes ethnographiques sur quelques tribus de l'Afrique Équatoriale Françaised. Paris 1911. P. 18.

⁶⁵ *R. Lamouroux*: Notes sur les populations de la subdivision de Fianga. *L'Anthropologie* 1913. P. 688.

⁶⁶ *A. Gruvel*: La pêche. P. 106.

⁶⁷ *O. Macleod*: Chiefs and Cities of Central Africa. London 1912. P. 59.

⁶⁸ *Dapper*: *Op. cit.* P. 368.

⁶⁹ *G. Hammar*: Babwende. Beskrifning öfver deras lefnadsförhållanden, religion, seder och bruk m. m. Etnografiska bidrag av svenska missionärer i Afrika. Utg. av *E. Nordenskiöld* Stockholm 1907. P. 782. Cf. *E. Manker*: Bland Kristallbergens folk. Stockholm 1929. P. 96.

⁷⁰ *A. Gruvel*: 1913. P. 114.

Bayanzi,⁷¹ Basoko⁷² and Bapoto,⁷³ although in their case it is not evident whether hooks of iron or wood are referred to. Hooks also occur among the Basongo,⁷⁴ Bangala,⁷⁵ Dendi,⁷⁶ Baswa,⁷⁷ Baluba,⁷⁸ and Bahololo.⁷⁹ The Bangala, at all events, have obtained theirs from Europeans. We have also fish-hooks at Leopoldville,⁸⁰ but, as Boulenger points out, "la pêche à la ligne est peu pratiquée au Congo".⁸¹ It is, however, stated by Boulenger that in certain districts (on Lake Leopold?) primitive iron hooks⁸² are manufactured, and on Lake Leopold hooks are in fact used.⁸³ On the other hand, hooks are not found among the Mandja,⁸⁴ nor the Pygmies,⁸⁵ and presumably not either among the Bakwese,⁸⁶ as these do no fishing.

The Bakondjo⁸⁷ used hooks both of the round type — called

⁷¹ *H. Johnston*: George Grenfell and the Congo II. London 1908. P. 782.

⁷² *H. Johnston*: *Op. cit.* P. 782. Cf. *G. A. Boulenger*: Les Poissons du Bassin du Congo. Bruxelles 1901. P. XLII.

⁷³ *A. Boulenger*: *Op. cit.* P. XXXII.

⁷⁴ *E. Torday et T. Joyce*: Notes Ethnographiques sur des populations habitant les Bassins du Kasai et du Kwango Oriental. Bruxelles 1911. P. 88.

⁷⁵ *J. H. Weeks*: Among Congo Cannibals. London 1913. P. 239. *Weeks*: Notes on the Bangala of the Upper Congo. Journal of the Anthropological Institute. 1909. P. 126.

⁷⁶ *A. H. S. Landor*: Through Widest Africa II. London 1907. P. 117.

⁷⁷ *H. Stanley*: Through the Dark Continent I. London 1878. P. 228.

⁷⁸ *R. P. Colle*: Les Baluba I. Bruxelles 1913. P. 200.

⁷⁹ *R. Schmitz*: Les Bahololo. Bruxelles 1912. P. 104.

⁸⁰ *A. Boulenger*: *Op. cit.* P. XXX.

⁸¹ *A. Boulenger*: *Op. cit.* P. XXXIII.

⁸² *A. Boulenger*: *Op. cit.* P. XXXVI.

⁸³ *A. Boulenger*: *Op. cit.* P. XLV.

⁸⁴ *J. Gaud*: Les Mandja, Bruxelles 1911. P. 203.

⁸⁵ *P. Schebesta*: Meine Forschungsexpedition zu den Pygmäen von Belgisch Kongo. Sitzungsbericht der Anthropologischen Gesellschaft in Wien 1930/31. P. 12. "Fischerei kommt eigentlich bei den Pygmäen nicht vor, jedenfalls habe ich niemals Gelegenheit gehabt solche zu beobachten, wohl nahmen die Knaben gern Angeln an und fischten damit."

⁸⁶ *E. Torday et T. Joyce*: *Op. cit.* P. 314.

⁸⁷ *J. Czekanowski*: Forschungen im Nil Congo-Zwischengebiet II. Leipzig 1924. P. 367. The Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin, possesses also round hooks from the Bakondjo.

duano (fig. 4 e) and the common unbarbed type.⁸⁸ From Kasesenge (SW of Lake Albert) Stuhlmann reports that the Walegga⁸⁹ (Warega) forge hooks that either resemble the European ones, i. e., are barbed, or else made from a piece of iron pointed at both ends, one of which is bent upwards and thus serves as a hook (fig. 4 c, d). Prof. Maes has kindly informed me, that the Musée Congo Belge possesses iron-hooks from "Warundi, Bangala, Gombe, Bakango, Mongo, Makere, Mangbetu, Sango, Yakoma, Abasango, Azande,"⁹⁰ Turumbu, Basoko, Topoke et les Bahema." (Letter of 19. 10. 33).

From the Lower Congo there are mentioned wooden hooks. They occur among the Babwende,⁹¹ and of these both the Riksmuseum and the Gothenburg Museum possess a couple each (Riksmuseum 06. 39. 549—551; Gothenburg Museum 13. 3. 22), fig. 5. Its native name is *luhaku*, it is made of bast and rib of palm leaf. The same type occurs also among the Bavili.⁹² There are further in the Riksmuseum wooden hooks, or, strictly speaking, gorges, from the Basundi (Laman 736), fig. 6, wick I am inclined to believe correspond to the "flexible wooden sticks" of the Basoko.⁹³ The Bakongo⁹⁴ use a small, straight piece of wood attached to the line in such a way that, when the fish bites, it turns at right angles and thus cannot slip out. From the Kasai district it is stated by Maes: "le hameçon est formé d'un très fin éclat de faux bambou, replié sur lui-même et maintenu en forme d'hameçon,

⁸⁸ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin.

⁸⁹ F. Stuhlmann: Mit Emin Pascha im Herz von Afrika. Berlin 1894. P. 579. Cf. Ratzel: Völkerkunde II. Leipzig und Wien 1895. Pp. 304, 305. These two types are also represented in the collections of the Berlin Museum für Völkerkunde. The hooks are from Njamsassi at Lake Albert.

⁹⁰ For Azande Cf. P. M. Larken: Impressions of the Azande. Sudan Notes and Records 1930. P. 110. "Not many people use hook and line". The Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin, possesses a hook from the Eastern Azande (the Makraka).

⁹¹ G. Hammar: *Op. cit.* P. 163. Cf. E. Manker: *Op. cit.* P. 96.

⁹² Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin.

⁹³ H. Johnston: *Op. cit.* P. 782.

⁹⁴ H. Johnston: *Op. cit.* P. 784.

par une fine fibre de raphia. Cette fibre de raphia est prolongée et forme la ligne de pêche".⁹⁵ This presumably refers to a type resembling that of Hammar from the Babwende. Prof. Maes has also stated that "raphia-hooks" are used by the Bangala, Wadia, Tumba and Bolia (Letter of 19. 10. 33).

From Angola it is stated that the natives of Kabinda⁹⁶ and Sao Antonio⁹⁷ use hooks, but Portuguese fishermen have settled in Angola, and these people are naturally using hooks of Portuguese manufacture.

From South West Africa I have only succeeded in obtaining two instances, viz. from the Oukuanjama⁹⁸ and Herero,⁹⁹ and the first-mentioned only very rarely use hooks for the reason that such (in 1911) are not yet generally known. Prof. Struck has kindly pointed out to me that Passarge states that "die Mambukuschu keine Fische fangen",¹⁰⁰ but on the other hand Seiner mentions that the Tannekwe use hooks "wie sie bei den Mambukuschu gebräuchlich sind".¹⁰¹ Concerning the Hottentots in S.W. Africa, Prof. Struck has further informed me that "das Hottentottenwort für Angel //hèib kommt nur in der Bibelübersetzung (Matth. 17. 27.) vor und ist ersichtlich ein künstliches Derivat von //hèi Speer" (Letter of 4. 10. 33). According to Dornan, the Bushmen do not use hooks,¹⁰² nor are any mentioned, so far as I can find, by either Passarge or Schultze. The same may be said of Andersson, although he records that "fish abound both in the lake

⁹⁵ J. Maes: Notes sur les populations des Bassins du Kassai, de la Lukenie et du Lac Leopold II. Bruxelles 1924. P. 89.

⁹⁶ A. Gruvel: *Op. cit.* P. 114.

⁹⁷ A. Gruvel: *Op. cit.* P. 123.

⁹⁸ H. Tönjes: Ovamboland. Berlin 1911. P. 79.

⁹⁹ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin.

¹⁰⁰ S. Passarge: Die Mambukuschu. Globus 1905. P. 298.

¹⁰¹ F. Seiner: Die Buschmänner des Okavango- und Sambesigebietes der Nordkalahari. Globus 1910. P. 345. This work was also pointed out to me by Prof. Struck. Cf. Seiner: Ergebnisse einer Bereisung der Omakeke 1910 bis 1912. Mitteilungen aus den Deutschen Schutzgebieten 1913. P. 296.

¹⁰² S. S. Dornan: Pygmies and Bushmen of the Kalahari. London 1925. P. 108.

(Ngami) and in the river".¹⁰³ Although Stow enumerates several fishing methods from a Bushman tribe on the Orange River,¹⁰⁴ he makes no mention of fish-hooks. Strangely enough it would seem as if South African natives on the whole had an unsurmountable objection to a fish diet.¹⁰⁵ Grewenbroek mentions (1695) fish-hooks from the Cape Hottentots,¹⁰⁶ and Kolb writes: "Insonderheit wissen sie wohl mit der Angel umhergehen, und was für Köder für jedwede Gattung Fische erforderlich sind. Vor Ankunft der Holländer waren ihre Angel-Haacken kleine krumgebogene Stücklein Eisen, von ihrem eigenem Gemächte; aber heutiges Tages sind sie mit Europäischen Angeln gar wohl versehen".¹⁰⁷ It is also mentioned that the Hottentots used hooks of animal's teeth or of bone.¹⁰⁸

The data that are available from South East Africa are unfortunately not very many. Regarding the Batonga¹⁰⁹ Junod mentions only that "there are no particular restrictions so long as the fishing is carried on by hooks", and their neighbours, the Bavenda,¹¹⁰ do not appear to be acquainted with fish-hooks, although a peculiar combination is mentioned: "I encountered one small fisherman using an ingeniously fashioned rod; he had scraped away all the thorns, except the very end one, from the branch of the *wag'n bietje* (wait-a-bit thorn) tree, the end thorn pointed upwards, the whole forming hook, line and rod combined; ...and I wonder whether he had obtained the idea of his rod from observing

¹⁰³ I. Andersson: *Sjön Ngami* II. Stockholm 1856. P. 446.

¹⁰⁴ G. W. Stow: *The native Races of South Africa*. London 1905. P. 93.

¹⁰⁵ G. Fritsch: *Drei Jahre in Süd-Afrika*. Berlin 1868. P. 338.

¹⁰⁶ I. Schapera and B. Farrington: *The Early Cape Hottentots*. Cape Town 1933. P. 183.

¹⁰⁷ P. Kolb: *Beschreibung des Vorgeburges der Guten Hoffnung und derer darauf wohnenden Hottentotten*. Franckfurt und Leipzig 1745. P. 184.

¹⁰⁸ I. Schapera: *The Khoisan Peoples of South Africa*. London 1930. P. 304. (After B. Morrel: *Narrative of Four Voyages to the South and West Coast of Africa from the year 1822—1831*. New York 1841. This work was not accessible to me).

¹⁰⁹ H. Junod: *The Life of a South African Tribe I*. London 1913. P. 68.

¹¹⁰ H. Stayt: *The Bavenda*. London 1931. P. 81.

the white man fishing, or whether it originated independently in his own small brain". In Northern Rhodesia the Baila¹¹¹ have hooks, called *mawezhi*, made of iron, but barbless, fig. 4 b. Boys of the Lamba use a small, barbless hook (*indowo*) and as regards barbed hooks it is stated that these were unknown before Europeans entered Ilamba.¹¹² The Batwa,¹¹³ the Bangweolo swampdwellers, were found to be intensely occupied in fishing, in which they employed hooks (12. 6. 268—270), fig. 4 f, g. These are made by the swamp people and are of a peculiar shape. They are, however fairly reliable, as, when the fish taken the bait and the point of the hook has pierced the cartilage of its mouth, the hook — on account of its shape — as soon as the fish gives a jerk slides down to the middle portion of the contraption. Among the collections of the Riksmuseum are a number of fishing appliances with hooks, acquired by E. von Rosen from Bangweolo. Those originating from the Batwa are all of the same shape, i. e., a fishing rod made of reed, with three lines of bast string and iron hooks. The outer and inner lines are provided with a single hook each, the middle one with two hooks. (Depicted in v. Rosen: *op. cit.*, p. 212, nr. 12. 6. 266). Long-line of bast string, with iron hooks (Depicted in v. Rosen: *op. cit.*, p. 134, 12. 6. 267). On the same occasion v. Rosen brought home a large number of hooks from the Baushi, inhabitants of the south-western shore of Lake Bangweolo: small iron hooks of the round type (12. 6. 723—729, fig. 9 b); larger hooks of the same type (12. 6. 719—722, fig. 9 a); small copper hook (12. 6. 718, fig. 9 e); small iron hooks half-open (12. 6. 715—717, fig. 9 d); a small iron hook with line (12. 6. 714, fig. 9 c); and a large iron hook with line (12. 6. 713). There was also included a fish-hook from the Babisa (12. 6. 478), of a type not found among the swamp-dwellers,¹¹⁴ though somewhat similar to what Smith and Dale describe. When Goulds-

¹¹¹ *W. Smith and A. M. Dale: The Ila-speaking Peoples of Northern Rhodesia.* London 1920. P. 160.

¹¹² *C. M. Doke: The Lambas of Northern Rhodesia.* London 1931. P. 343.

¹¹³ *E. v. Rosen: Träskfolket.* Stockholm 1916. Pp. 212—213.

¹¹⁴ *v. Rosen: Op. cit.* P. 330.

bury and Sheane write that "in the vicinity of the great lakes, Tanganyika and Bangweolo, fishing affords perhaps the most important means of subsistence for a considerable number of natives"¹¹⁵ and also indicate that fish-hooks are known, one is justified in supposing that the tribes here referred to are the Baushi and Waitawa. Furthermore, there are hooks in use among the Eastern Baluba (Kimanyato, at Kasembe)¹¹⁶ and Livingstone noticed that the Balunda¹¹⁷ were fishing with hooks which had an inward bend "so dass der Fisch nicht entkommen kann". May this perhaps be accepted as evidence of a "round" hook? Of more general character is an instance from British Central Africa,¹¹⁸ where the natives are said to use fishing rods, though it is also stated that this generally is the case on the Shire river.¹¹⁹ The hooks there employed are without a barb, but instead "bent in towards the shank", i. e. presumably referring to a hook of the "round" type.

There are further instances from the Mbamba-Bay (Wampoto and Wanyassa).¹²⁰ While Weule makes no mention of fishing with hooks from the southern portions of East Africa, Fülleborn — who in his atlas depicts a number of hooks from the Wakonde¹²¹ and Wampoto (fig. 6, Pl. 109) — says that hooks are used, and may be bought cheaply from traders, but that they are occasionally manufactured by the natives themselves. The Wakisi on Lake Nyasa possess hooks of iron¹²²

¹¹⁵ *C. Gouldsbury and H. Sheane: The Great Plateau of Northern Rhodesia.* London 1911. P. 203.

¹¹⁶ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin.

¹¹⁷ *Livingstone: Missionsreisen und Forschungen in Südafrika I.* Leipzig. 1858. P. 352.

¹¹⁸ *H. Johnston: British Central Africa.* London 1897. P. 436. "Fishing is carried on by the rod and line, possibly learnt from Europeans" Cf. *Werner: infra.* P. 192.

¹¹⁹ *A. Werner: The Natives of British Central Africa.* London 1906. P. 192.

¹²⁰ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin. Barbless hook.

¹²¹ The Museum für Völkerkunde possesses a barbless Konde-hook. Cf. *D. R. Mackenzie: The Spirit Ridden Konde.* London 1925. P. 143. "Fish-hooks are mostly pre-European, and barbless, though some are now made with barbs". Cf. also P. 149.

¹²² *F. Fülleborn: Das deutsche Nyassa und Ruwumagebiet.* Berlin 1906.

and also of wood¹²³ and the Wasafwa on the Songwe river have hooks which they buy from Europeans or Arabs, but formerly made themselves.¹²⁴ Instances are given from the Wandamba,¹²⁵ and the Wafipa and Wabende,¹²⁶ on the shores of Tanganyika, use both round hooks and a kind of hook more resembling the European type. Before the white men came into the country, all hooks were made by the village smith. Besides, there is a yearly influx of Wagoma, coming to Utinta to fish, and they are reputed to have introduced fishing with round hooks.¹²⁷ Hooks are also employed in Butembo,¹²⁸ and the Barundi¹²⁹ on Lake Tanganyika, use hooks (*umungera*); this method of fishing is also known to the Urundi Batwa.¹³⁰ Their name for hook is *igera*. Further, there is an illustration of a hook—quite similar to that of Dusén from the Cameroons (fig. 1) — from Mukinjaga¹³¹ (south of L. Kivu), fig. 4 a.

We have instances from the Kiziba country,¹³² where the natives carry on fishing both in Lake Victoria and in the Kagera river. Their hooks are barbless, but have a shape resembling the European type, and the same seems to be

P. 528. The Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin possesses a Kissi-hook from Langenburg.

¹²³ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin.

¹²⁴ E. Kootz-Kretschmar: Die Safwa I. Berlin 1926. P. 151.

¹²⁵ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin. Barbless hook.

¹²⁶ Weisse Väter: Die Fischerei bei Utinta am Tanganyika. *Anthropos* 1933. P. 117. For Wafipa Cf. P. Fromm: Ufipa. Land und Leute. Mitteilungen aus den Deutschen Schutzgebieten 1912. P. 89.

¹²⁷ Weisse Väter: *Op. cit.* P. 118.

¹²⁸ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin. Unbarbed hook.

¹²⁹ H. Meyer: Die Barundi. Leipzig 1916. P. 39. In The Museum für Völkerkunde are several round hooks from the Barundi (Meyer does not mention whether his hooks were round or not).

¹³⁰ H. Meyer: *Op. cit.* P. 37.

¹³¹ Czekanowski: *Op. cit.* I. P. 148. The Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin, possesses a hook of the same type from the south-eastern shore of Lake Kivu.

¹³² H. Rehse: Kiziba. Stuttgart 1910. P. 43. Cf. Hermann: Die Wasiba und ihr Land. Mitteilungen aus den Deutschen Schutzgebieten 1894. P. 51. There are barbless hooks from Kiziba in the collections in Berlin.

applicable to the Karagwe.¹³³ The Waheia use hooks with a rather peculiar head, fig. 7.¹³⁴ On the island of Bussira home-made hooks of a barbless type are nearly always used.¹³⁵ The Wasukuma¹³⁶ have "peculiar fishing-hooks", and the Wasindja¹³⁷ employ small iron hooks. The Wakerewe¹³⁸ and Washashi¹³⁹ employ round hooks without a barb, but apart from this, their type of fishing rod is hardly of a type common in Africa and is only found along the south-eastern shore of Lake Victoria¹⁴⁰ (Usindja, Ushashi, Ngoroine,¹⁴¹ Satenaki), fig. 8.¹⁴² Instances are also available from the Wanyamwezi,¹⁴³ who use a primitive kind of hook. It consists of a short stick to which is attached an iron hook, on which there is no barb nor any bend at the point.

Barbless hooks are also known among the Wasandaui¹⁴⁴ and Sandawe,¹⁴⁵ and we also met with instances on the inlands of Pemba and Zanzibar, where hooks are of home manufac-

¹³³ *P. Kollmann*: The Victoria Nyanza. London 1899. P. 52. The Museum für Völkerkunde possesses a barbless hook from Karagwe.

¹³⁴ Collection H. Meyer (MAF 29073). The picture has been sketched by Dr. *German*.

¹³⁵ *F. Stuhlmann*: *Op. cit.* P. 698.

¹³⁶ *P. Kollmann*: *Op. cit.* P. 148. The Museum für Völkerkunde in Berlin possesses an unbarbed hook from Massanssa in Usukuma.

¹³⁷ *P. Kollmann*: *Op. cit.* P. 124.

¹³⁸ *O. Baumann*: Durch Massailand zur Nilquelle. Berlin 1894. P. 210. Cf. *Kollmann*: *Op. cit.* P. 128.

¹³⁹ *O. Baumann*: *Op. cit.* P. 199. Cf. *Kollmann*: *Op. cit.* P. 201. The Museum in Leipzig possesses a Washashi-hook. Collection Kollmann MAF 7968. Cf. *A. Huberlandt*: Afrika. Buschan I. Stuttgart 1922. P. 568.

¹⁴⁰ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin.

¹⁴¹ Common (unbarbed) hooks are also employed in Ngoroine (Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin). The same Museum has some barbless hooks from the Eastern shore of Lake Victoria.

¹⁴² The picture has been sketched by Dr. *German*.

¹⁴³ *W. Blohm*: Die Nyamwezi I. Hamburg 1931. P. 108.

¹⁴⁴ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin.

¹⁴⁵ *O. Dempwolf*: Die Sandawe. Hamburg 1916. P. 94. There is an unbarbed Sandawe-hook in the Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin.

ture.¹⁴⁶ Hooks also occur among the Pare¹⁴⁷ and from the Wakahe the Riksmuseum possesses three barbless fish-hooks (12. 7. 713—715, fig. 9 f, g, h). We have instances of the occurrence of hooks among the Wataweta,¹⁴⁸ Wapokomo,¹⁴⁹ Nilotic Kavirondo¹⁵⁰, Bantu Kavirondo¹⁵¹, the first-mentioned at any rate using a home-made article. From the Wataweta the Riksmuseum possesses three hooks (12. 7. 758—760, fig. 9 h, i, j), which, like those from the Wakahe, were brought home by Prof. Lindblom. The Basabei,¹⁵² Basoga¹⁵³ and the Bakeni,¹⁵⁴ a subsection of the Basoga and located on Lakes Kioga and Salisbury, make use of hooks, and among the last-mentioned the women often fish in this way,¹⁵⁵ which is a rather unique circumstance as — so far as is known — women generally use hand-nets¹⁵⁶ and plungebaskets,¹⁵⁷ while men and boys, often chiefly the latter,¹⁵⁸ engage in fishing with hooks. Fishing with hooks has been practiced among the Ba-

¹⁴⁶ *W. H. Ingrams*: Zanzibar, its History and its People. London 1931. P. 229. Cf. *E. Craster*: Pemba. London 1931. P. 99.

¹⁴⁷ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin. Barbless hook.

¹⁴⁸ *H. Johnston*: The Kilima-Njaro Expedition. London 1886. P. 434. Cf. *G. Lindblom*: Anteckningar över Taveta-folkets etnologi. Ymer 1913. P. 167.

¹⁴⁹ *A. Werner*: Notes on the Wapokomo of the Tana Valley. Journal of the African Society 1913. P. 378.

¹⁵⁰ *C. W. Hobley*: Eastern Uganda, an Ethnographical Survey. London 1902. P. 26. Cf. *G. S. Northcote*: The Nilotic Kavirondo. Journal. Anthropological Institute 1907. P. 65.

¹⁵¹ *Hobley*: Op. cit. P. 14. Cf. *H. Johnston*: The Uganda Protectorate II. London 1902. P. 738.

¹⁵² *J. Roscoe*: The Bageshu and other Tribes of the Uganda Protectorate. P. 68. Cambridge 1924.

¹⁵³ *J. Roscoe*: The Bageshu. P. 118. Cf. *A. Condon*: Contribution to the ethnography of the Basoga-Batamba. Anthropos 1910. P. 954.

¹⁵⁴ *A. L. Kitching*: On the Back Waters of the Nile. London 1912. P. 119.

¹⁵⁵ *A. L. Kitching*: Op. cit. P. 114.

¹⁵⁶ *A. Werner*: The evolution of agriculture. Journal of the African Society. 1900. P. 409.

¹⁵⁷ *T. Leth and K. G. Lindblom*: Op. cit. P. 3.

¹⁵⁸ *H. Johnston*: 1908. P. 781. "As to methods of fishing, angling with a rod, line and hook is seldom practised by grown up people, but is very properly regarded as a pastime for little boys or girls."

ganda,¹⁵⁹ and their hooks were neither given a barb nor an aperture through which the line could be threaded, but were occasionally home-made.¹⁶⁰ Fish-hooks are further used by the Banyoro,¹⁶¹ and among them it has by now supplanted other fishing methods, such as "basket traps" and "draw-nets". Hooks are also mentioned from Kibiro¹⁶² and the Lango,¹⁶³ where, however, they are not frequently occurring but only used by boys. They occur further among the Acholi,¹⁶⁴ Bari,¹⁶⁵, Alur¹⁶⁶ and Kuku,¹⁶⁷ the latter having obtained them from northern Sudan. There is besides evidence in a more general way that the Nilo-Hamitic peoples¹⁶⁸ employ hooks, and then the Bari are supposedly more particularly alluded to. The Nuer¹⁶⁹ use hooks made of bone, although their occurrence is apparently not very common. In addition Jackson gives the information that "the initiates this year held fish-hooks in their hands, and probed about in the water for fish". This hook is called *b(w)oin*.¹⁷⁰ Hooks are found among the

¹⁵⁹ *H. Johnston*: Uganda II. P. 668. Cf. *J. Roscoe*: The Soul of Central Africa. London 1922. P. 294. Cf. *M. Weiss*: Die Völkerstämme im Norden von Deutsch-Ostafrika. Berlin 1910. P. 140. Cf. *J. Roscoe*: The Baganda. London 1911. P. 395. Cf. *Ratzel*: *Op. cit.* P. 241.

¹⁶⁰ *F. Stuhlmann*: *Op. cit.* P. 180.

¹⁶¹ *J. Roscoe*: The Bakitara or Banyoro. Cambridge 1923. P. 322.

¹⁶² *G. Casati*: Zehn Jahre in Äquatoria und die Rückkehr mit Emin Pascha II. Bamberg 1881. P. 124. Cf. *F. Stuhlmann*: *Op. cit.* P. 510.

¹⁶³ *H. Driberg*: The Lango. London 1923. P. 123.

¹⁶⁴ British Museum. Dr Braunholtz has kindly informed me that the British Museum possesses three hooks from the Acholi and Alur tribes, and also a hook of doubtful origin, but supposed to be "East Central Africa". Letter dated 30. 9. 33.

¹⁶⁵ *J. M. Jephson*: Emin Pascha och de upproriske i Sudan. Stockholm 1891. P. 124.

¹⁶⁶ British Museum.

¹⁶⁷ *El. Yuz Negib Yunis*: The Kuku and other minor tribes of the Kajo Kaji District. Sudan Notes and Records 1924. P. 37. On the other hand, no mention of hooks is found in *J. van den Plass*: Les Kuku. Bruxelles 1910.

¹⁶⁸ *Czekanowski*: *Op. cit.* II. P. 539.

¹⁶⁹ *Landor*: *Op. cit.* I. P. 249. Cf. *R. Huffman*: Nuer Customs and Folklore. London 1931. P. 13.

¹⁷⁰ *H. C. Jackson*: The Nuer of the Upper Nile Province. Sudan Notes and Records. 1923. P. 148. Cf. also P. 139.

Shilluk,¹⁷¹ who forge them themselves, although they do not fit them with barbs; nowadays, Westermann says, they buy their hooks from the white people.¹⁷² The Shilluk also employ round hooks (fig. 10),¹⁷³ and further instances are found from the Mbegumba¹⁷⁴ and the Baggara tribes of Darfur.¹⁷⁵ Judging from Boulenger, one must give due regard to the probability of the inhabitants of the White Nile region having obtained their knowledge of fishing with hook from the Arabs.¹⁷⁶

Evans-Pritchard writes that Schweinfurth "figures a Bongo fish-hook called *golloh*,¹⁷⁷ but the implement referred to is more of the nature of a fish-gig than a fish-hook."¹⁷⁸

Finally, evidence as to the absence of fish-hooks is from these parts of Africa available from the Warangi,¹⁷⁹ Masai,¹⁸⁰ Akamba,¹⁸¹ Akikuyu,¹⁸² Nandi, Lumbwa,¹⁸³ Didinga¹⁸⁴ and the Raik-Dinka.¹⁸⁵ The Masai, Akamba, Akikuyu, Nandi, Lumbwa and Didinga do not eat fish.

Before passing on to Egypt, we may as well take a look at conditions in Abyssinia and adjacent districts. From the Ar-

¹⁷¹ *W. Hofmayr*: Die Shilluk. Mödling 1925. P. 319.

¹⁷² *D. Westermann*: The Shilluk People. Berlin 1912. P. XXX.

¹⁷³ Collection Berghof M. A. F. 1447. The picture has been sketched by Dr. Germann.

¹⁷⁴ *E. Evans Pritchard*: The Mberidi (Shilluk Group) and the Mbegumba (Basiri Group) of the Bahr-el-Ghazal. Sudan Notes and Records 1931. Sid. 40.

¹⁷⁵ *G. D. Lampen*: The Baggara Tribes of Darfur. Sudan Notes and Records 1933. P. 104. The hook is called *chelbani*.

¹⁷⁶ *G. A. Boulenger*: The Fisheries of the Nile. London 1907. P. XLVIII.

¹⁷⁷ *E. Evans-Pritchard*: The Bongo. Sudan Notes and Records. 1929. P. 53.

¹⁷⁸ Cf. picture in *G. Schweinfurth*: Artes Africanæ. Leipzig 1875. Pl. 5.

¹⁷⁹ *Baumstark*: Die Warangi. Mitteilungen aus den Deutschen Schutzgebieten. 1900. P. 51.

¹⁸⁰ *M. Merker*: Die Masai. Berlin 1910. P. 34.

¹⁸¹ *K. G. Lindblom*: The Akamba in British East-Africa. Upsala 1920. P. 474. Cf. P. 332.

¹⁸² *W. S. and K. Routledge*: With a Prehistoric People. London 1910. P. 50.

¹⁸³ *Hobley*: Op. cit. P. 36.

¹⁸⁴ *J. H. Driberg*: A preliminary account of the Didinga. Sudan Notes and Records 1925. P. 217.

¹⁸⁵ *O. W. Titherington*: The Raik Dinka of Bahr-el-Ghazal Province. Sudan Notes and Records 1927. P. 202.

bore on Lake Stephanie, Arnold describes a large, barbless iron hook¹⁸⁶ and in Abyssinia the Kaficho¹⁸⁷ use fish-hooks made of iron (*makatiro*) which they manufacture themselves. The fishing implement we are here concerned with was also found by v. Heuglin on Lake Tana among the Woito people.¹⁸⁸ Fishing with hook does however not seem to have been commonly practiced in Abyssinia,¹⁸⁹ and in conclusion it may be mentioned that Alvarez, when in 1526 — during da Lima's expedition to Abyssinia — he made a short stay at Debarea, puts on record that "nobody hunts or fishes nor have they engines nor devices, nor the will to do it."¹⁹⁰

The Harti and Ogaden in Kismayu use European hooks¹⁹¹ and Dracopoli bought some there.¹⁹² According to Paulitschke hooks may be supposed not to occur among the Somali,¹⁹³ as they do not eat fish, but the Museum für Völkerkunde (Berlin) possesses a fish-hook from the Somali (without further details). Hooks are also mentioned from the Tomal,¹⁹⁴ Danakil¹⁹⁵ and Habr Aval, from which the Riksmuseum possesses a fish-hook of iron (10. 1. 343).

In ancient Egypt¹⁹⁶ fish-hooks appear, according to Bates, towards the end of the pre-Dynastic era; the hooks are barb-

¹⁸⁶ E. Arnold: Through Unknown African Countries. London 1897. P. 441.

¹⁸⁷ F. Biecher: Die Kaffa I. Mödling 1920. P. 337.

¹⁸⁸ Th. v. Heuglin: Reise nach Abessinien. Jena 1868. P. 290.

¹⁸⁹ A. Hayes: The source of the Blue Nile. London 1905. P. 37. "I saw no rods or hooks used by natives in Abyssinia." Prof. Lindblom has drawn my attention to this work.

¹⁹⁰ F. Rey: The Romance of the Portuguese in Abyssinia. London 1929. P. 50.

¹⁹¹ R. M. 06. 56. 35.

¹⁹² I. N. Dracopoli: Through Jubaland to the Lorian Swamp. London 1914. P. 150.

¹⁹³ P. Paulitschke: Ethnographie Nordostafrikas. Berlin 1893. P. 233.

¹⁹⁴ G. Révoil: La Vallée du Darror. Paris 1882. P. 348.

¹⁹⁵ Paulitschke: *Op. cit.* P. 233.

¹⁹⁶ D. Randall MacIver and A. C. Mace: El Amrah and Abydos. London 1902. P. 89. A large number of hooks, with or without apertures for threading the line through — and mostly barbed, are depicted in W. M. Flinders Petrie: Tools and Weapons, London 1917. Plate XLIII (Nos. 61—87). See also P. E. Newberry and F. L. Griffith: Beni Hassan. London 1893—96;

less (fig. 11 a, b), and this type also prevails during the Middle Kingdom (fig. 11 c) and are not unknown during the 18th Dynasty, although by then they have begun to become rarer while at the same time their shape is undergoing a change (fig. 11 e). Barbed hooks appear for the first time during the 12th Dynasty (fig. 11 d), and during the New Empire hooks are regularly provided with barbs (fig. 11 f). It is however noteworthy that right from the end of the pre-Dynastic era fish-hooks are made of bronze, and iron hooks only appear during the Late Period (fig. 11 g), when they at any rate were used by the Greek settlers in Egypt. Iron hooks of this kind have besides been found in Greek colonies in Egypt, and it needs hardly be mentioned that the fish-hooks used in Egypt in our times are made of the same material (fig. 11 h).¹⁹⁷

In modern times fish-hooks are of course used throughout the Nile valley.¹⁹⁸ Fishermen of the towns on the Red Sea¹⁹⁹ particularly those of Kosêr and Berenice — it may be supposed — use hooks while the coast Ababdeh generally employ fish-spears.²⁰⁰

Finally we may turn to Madagascar. From this island the Riksmuseum possesses an old fish-hook of mother-of-pearl, with line, reposing in a plaited case (R. M. 1800). This object was brought to the Riksmuseum in 1800. According to Robert

L. Klebs: Die Reliefs und Malereien des mittleren Reiches. Heidelberg 1922. P. 109; *A. Erman*: Aegypten und aegyptisches Leben im Altertum I. Tübingen 1885. P. 326; *A. Wiedemann*: Das alte Aegypten. Heidelberg 1920. P. 108; *J. G. Wilkinson*: The Manners and Customs of the ancient Egyptians II. London 1878. P. 115; *Wreszinsky*: Atlas zur altäg. Kulturgesch. Table 106. A monograph on Egyptian fishing methods has been published by *O. Bates*: Ancient Egyptian Fishing. Harvard African Studies, 1917.

¹⁹⁷ *O. Bates*: *Op. cit.* Pp. 245—248.

¹⁹⁸ *O. Bates*: *Op. cit.* P. 247. Cf. *J. Bruce*: Reise zur Entdeckung der Quellen des Nils. Leipzig 1791. P. 215.

¹⁹⁹ *B. Klunzinger*: Bilder aus Oberägypten, der Wüste und dem Rothen Meere. Stuttgart 1878. P. 299. *B. Klunzinger*: Upper Egypt its people and its products. London 1878. P. 305.

²⁰⁰ *Klunzinger*: Upper Egypt. P. 258.

Drury, it appears that the Wazimba²⁰¹ in the early part of the 18th century manufactured hooks, and such were also used by the inhabitants of Antandroy,²⁰² and the Sakalava.²⁰³ When at a recent visit to Gothenburg I asked Dr. Kaudern whether he had seen fish-hooks in use among the natives of the island in question, he was unable to recall whether such was the case.

Crocodile-fishing.

As fishing for crocodiles strictly speaking falls beyond the scope of the present inquiry. I shall deal with this subject in a more summary fashion. The Jukun,²⁰⁴ for example, are able to catch crocodiles with their *mamari* lines (cf. p. 7) if sufficiently large hooks are employed, and if these are placed sufficiently close together. The Yauri²⁰⁵ (Province of Sokoto, Nigeria) for the same purpose use a large hook, *mari*, fig. 12, and a similar method is recorded from the Bachama²⁰⁶ and Gambia,²⁰⁷ although there the hook is supplanted by a short and straight piece of iron (from 4 to 6 inches), both ends of which are sharpened to a point. These iron-bars were formerly as a rule made by the village smiths, but subsequently it was found handier to steal telegraph-wire and adapt it to this new purpose.

As had already been pointed out by Professor Lindblom, our knowledge as to crocodile-hunting in Africa is rather scanty, the reason for which appears to seek, *i. a.*, in the fact

²⁰¹ Les Aventures de Robert Drury pendant ses quinze années de captivité à Madagascar et son second voyage dans cette Ile 1701—1717 à 1719—1720. Collection des Ouvrages anciens concernant Madagascar IV. Publiée par A. et G. Grandidier. Paris 1906. P. 369.

²⁰² Grandidier: Op. cit. P. 255.

²⁰³ Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin.

²⁰⁴ C. K. Meek: 1932. P. 422.

²⁰⁵ Harris: Notes on Yauri (Sokoto Province), Nigeria. Journal. Anthropological Institute 1930. P. 323.

²⁰⁶ N. H. Brønnum: Folkeliv i Sudan. Kjöbenhavn 1923. P. 113.

²⁰⁷ H. T. Rowe: Op. cit. P. 276.

that, on various grounds, this animal is not generally hunted.²⁰⁸ Dapper states, however, in his work that the natives round Lake Tsana²⁰⁹ in Abyssinia "fish" crocodiles, and a few instances are also known from Egypt. Thus Diodor²¹⁰ says that formerly crocodiles were caught on a hook baited with swine flesh. And Leo Africanus writes the following which I here reproduce verbatim: "the fishers binding a strong and long rope unto some tree or poste standing for the nonce upon the banke of Nilus, fasten unto the end thereof an iron hook of a cubit long, and about the thickness of a man's finger, and upon the hooks they hang a ramme or a goate . . ."²¹¹ In ancient Egypt, however, there will hardly have been any hunting — or, in this connection, "fishing" — of crocodiles unless on account of their having multiplied to an excessive extent and thereby become too much of a plague, at all events so it appears from the fact that no pictorial representation of the catching of a crocodile has as yet come to our knowledge.²¹² Another writer referring to the use of hooks for catching crocodiles is Herodotus, though only in citing Hekataios. In modern Egypt²¹³ has also been employed a method resembling that used in Gambia. It consisted of tying a dog to a stout wooden stick which was attached to a rope, and this in its turn was fastened to a large float. When the crocodile had swallowed the bait, the rope was given a jerk so that the wooden stick fixed itself crosswise. Again, crocodiles are caught on large hooks by the Lur²¹⁴ on the White Nile. This method is also known to the Barotse.²¹⁵ Their hooks are of

²⁰⁸ K. G. Lindblom: *Jakt och fångstmetoder bland afrikanska folk* I. Stockholm 1925. P. 24.

²⁰⁹ Dapper: *Op. cit.* P. 420.

²¹⁰ Griechische Prosaiker in neuen Uebersetzungen herausgegeben von G. L. Tafel. Diodors von Sicilien historische Bibliothek I. Stuttgart 1827. P. 58.

²¹¹ Leo Africanus: *The History and Description of Africa* III. Hakluyt Society 94. London 1846. P. 952.

²¹² Wiedemann: *Op. cit.* P. 245.

²¹³ Rawlinson: *Herodotus* II. P. 70.

²¹⁴ Stuhlmann: *Op. cit.* P. 508.

²¹⁵ E. Holub: *Sieben Jahre in Südafrika* II. Wien 1881. P. 264. Cf. F. Ratzel: *Völkerkunde* II. P. 219.

iron, and concealed by wrapping the bait in a piece of netting. Owing to the peculiar shape of the hook, the crocodile is unable to close its mouth, and this again causes him to drown if he tries to submerge. The same method is also practiced by certain Kafir tribes.²¹⁶ They attach a hook to a piece of wood in such a way that the latter prevents the crocodile to shut its jaws, and thus, as Lindblom points out, we note that crocodile-fishing carried out in this manner occasionally has a twofold action: for one thing, the crocodile may be pulled out directly, and, secondly, its involuntary intaking of water tends to wear down its resistance, even, with some luck, to drown it.²¹⁷

Typology and Résumé.

To begin with, it will be necessary to inquire into the distribution of the type of "fish-hook" or *gorge*, that consists of a straight piece of wood with pointed ends. We have seen that in Africa these implements were used by the Basoko and in Gambia — in the latter place for catching crocodiles. This type, which Krause has given the name of "Knebelangel",²¹⁸ has a widespread distribution. There is evidence of its occurrence in Mexico,²¹⁹ and a similar apparatus is used by the inhabitants on Baffin's Bay²²⁰ in seal-hunting. A gorge of the same type occurs on the western coast of North America²²¹ both for fishing and bird-catching. The Fuegians²²² use for the same purpose the quill of a bird's feather. The natives of Lesser Kei Island²²³ — next to the Aroe Islands in the Malay Archipelago — and of the adjacent island of Goram²²⁴ use

²¹⁶ D. Kidd: *The essential Kafir*. London 1904. P. 314.

²¹⁷ Lindblom: *Op. cit.* P. 26.

²¹⁸ Krause: *Op. cit.* P. 97.

²¹⁹ Gruvel: *La pêche*. P. 92.

²²⁰ Krause: *Op. cit.* P. 97. Fig. 413.

²²¹ Krause: *Op. cit.* P. 96. Fig. 405. Of wood or iron.

²²² Krause: *Op. cit.* P. 95. (Only for fishing.)

²²³ Krause: *Op. cit.* P. 96. Fig. 404.

²²⁴ Krause: *Op. cit.* P. 96.

small gorges of this type, which is also known to occur in Borneo²²⁵ and Madagascar.²²⁶ For bird-catching it is known from the Eskimo and several north Asiatic tribes,²²⁷ as well as from Swiss on Untersee,²²⁸ and, lastly, it is well known that in both Switzerland and France²²⁹ there have been made archaeological finds in which these very implements, gorges, were present. Those so far above referred to are characterized by the piece of wood being straight, and originally the line was tied round it, although subsequently there was provided a groove, or a perforation, for the better fastening of the line. A further development has, however, taken place in that pieces of wood were selected that were bent to an angle, thus giving rise to a type approaching the implements of the Basundi (fig. 6) and presumably also the "flexible wooden sticks" of the Basoko. This type may be said to reach its highest development in a Chinese²³⁰ gorge. It consists of a flexible piece of bamboo which is doubled up and "set" in such a way that it springs to the straight on the fish biting. As regards angle-bent fish-gorges, it may in passing be mentioned that such are of very common occurrence in the island world of the Pacific Ocean.²³¹

If we consider the wide distribution of gorges, it may surely be accepted as a fact that this is a case of convergence, and that these implements may have been invented independently of each other. In the case of Africa it is worthy of note that the gorge consisting of a straight piece of wood is known only from Gambia, the lower Congo and Madagascar (fig. 13). These regions have, it is true, for a longer time than most parts of this continent been in communication with Europe but nevertheless it is to suppose that this type of fishing implement has come into being before European hooks

²²⁵ *Gruvel*: La pêche. P. 93. Of wood.

²²⁶ *Gruvel*: *Op. cit.* P. 92.

²²⁷ *Krause*: *Op. cit.* P. 97.

²²⁸ *Krause*: *Op. cit.* P. 97.

²²⁹ *Krause*: *Op. cit.* P. 95. Figs. 402, 403, 409, 412. Cf. *Gruvel*: La pêche. P. 92.

²³⁰ *Gruvel*: La pêche. P. 94 (fig. 68).

²³¹ *Krause*: *Op. cit.* P. 96.

had been seen, but it must also be borne in mind that the Madagascar gorge may constitute a culture element originating from the South Sea Island. On this account the Babwende hook (fig. 5) must be considered as a development of the native gorges.

An examination of the *round* hooks is also called for. We have seen that a native hook industry has come into existence, mainly in East Africa, but also with ramifications extended to the South. The Batwa of Bangweolo, Wasafwa, Wafipa, Wabende, Wataweta, Baganda, Warega and Bussira, — all these, at any rate, have themselves manufactured their hooks. One cannot avoid connecting this hook-making industry with the round hooks — that are principally met with in East Africa. Instances of round hooks are available from the Batwa of Bangweolo, Baushi, Balunda(?), Wafipa, Wabende, Wagoma, Barundi, Wakerewe, Washashi, Wakake, Wataweta, Bakondjo and Shilluk, whilst perhaps the "peculiar fishing-hooks" of the Wasukuma (Kollmann) may also be here included. A detailed description of the fabrication of the round hook does not seem out of place. In Utinta, at any rate, the method is the following: "Die eingeborenen Schmiede fertigen die Angeln aus einem Stück Eisen, das sie zu entsprechender Dicke aushämmern. Das Eisen wird wiederholt gegläht und zurechtgeklopft. Die Spitze wird dünner gemacht und auf einem Steine geschärft. Auch die Öse wird geformt, bevor die Angel gekrümmt wird. Der Schmied steckt das Eisenstück, das er verarbeitet hat, in ein Hölzchen mit Eisenzwinge. Dann krümmt er das Ösenende im Loche eines Axthelmes, in dem er mit dem kleinen Dächsel das Eisenende in das Loch treibt. Auf dem Amboss (Stein) wird die Öse fertig geformt. Auch zum Krümmen der Angel benützt er Dächsel und Axthelm. Zuletzt wird die Angel gehärtet."²²² It is typical of these hooks that, though they are of the round type, they are barbless, a feature presumably common to all native-made African fish-hooks. The fact of the Warega making their hooks with barbs appears to me to prove that this

²²² *Weisse Väter: Op. cit.* P. 120.

type has only arisen subsequently to acquaintance with European hooks having been made, especially as a barbless type of hook is besides manufactured (fig. 4 c, d).

Then there remains the question as to whether the round hook did or did not arise independently of foreign influences. In this connection it should in the first place be pointed out that round hooks are comparatively widespread. In Japan and China²³³ they are of iron (and barbed); on the Pelew Islands²³⁴ the material is tortoise shell (barbed); in Samoa,²³⁵ mussel, and exactly similar to those of oyster shell on Easter Island²³⁶ and of mussel on Santa Cruz Islands²³⁷ (California). On the whole, fish-hooks that are more or less round are of very widespread occurrence on the South Sea Islands, but in may be pointed out that also in the Canary Islands, Teneriffe²³⁸ in particular (fig. 14), and in Europe, are occurring round — or rounded — hooks, though they are barbed. That there might be any cultural connection between Teneriffe and East Africa so as to explain the presence of the round hook in both places, I do not believe, nor that there is any cultural connection between the round hooks of the interior of East-Africa and those of the South Sea Islands though the peculiar type of fishing rod used by the Wakerewe (fig. 8) is also found in Melanesia.²³⁹

In passing may be mentioned the remarkable fact that the material of African hooks I dispose of (museum pieces or in form of illustrations in books) does not show any very great similarity to the Egyptian ones. In the résumé that Bates gives of his valuable essay he states, among other things, that even during the earliest periods the Egyptian hooks showed less development than those found in Europe.²⁴⁰ Thus

²³³ E. Krause: *Op. cit.* P. 86. Fig. 339.

²³⁴ E. Krause: *Op. cit.* P. 86. Fig. 338.

²³⁵ E. Krause: *Op. cit.* P. 86. Fig. 336.

²³⁶ E. Krause: *Op. cit.* P. 86.

²³⁷ E. Krause: *Op. cit.* P. 86. Fig. 334. Barbless.

²³⁸ R. Verneau: *Cinq années de séjour aux Iles Canaries*. Paris 1891. P. 35.

²³⁹ L. Frobenius: *Der Ursprung der Afrikanischen Kulturen*. Berlin 1898. P. 258.

²⁴⁰ O. Bates: *Op. cit.* P. 270.

the Egyptians do not appear to have known the twin hook²⁴¹ even at a comparatively late period.

Whether fish-hooks spread to Egypt from Europe or Asia Minor is a question I am not prepared to pronounce upon, this being besides an archaeological concern, but a few facts may, however, be pointed out. Fishing with hook was known both in Assyria²⁴² and Palestine,²⁴³ although — contrary to Egypt — its more developed form, i. e. fishing with rod, in earlier times was unknown in both of these countries.²⁴⁴ On the other hand may be mentioned that many types of European fish-hooks that are fairly large distributed along the northern Mediterranean coast are absent in Egypt, and "not even such fish-hooks, . . . as have been found in early Syria bear anything more than a general resemblance to the Egyptian types".²⁴⁵ Just as fishing with hook is of considerable antiquity in Europe, and one of the commonest occupations of the Swiss pile-dwellers,²⁴⁶ it may also be put down for a comparatively great age in the Far East. As to China, there is, *i. a.* mention of fishing with rod line in the era following 1122 B. C.²⁴⁷

Reverting now to Africa. Of hooks that are of European origin, or introduced by Europeans, we have direct evidence as regards Rabat and Salé, the Wolof, Lébous, Serer, Kasongo, "the kingdom of Gambia", the Susu, and further, all along the coast of French Guinea, in Sierra Leone, among the Gbande, Toma, Gissi (Kissi), Lobi, Eve, Fons and other tribes in Dahomey; the Yoruba, Ijaw, Edo, Ibo; the tribes of the Ossidinge district, the Wute, Bakoko, the Pygmies in French Congo, the Basundi, Babwende, Bangala, Lamba,

²⁴¹ *O. Bates: Op. cit.* P. 270.

²⁴² *W. Radcliffe: Fishing from the Earliest Times.* London 1926. P. 355.

²⁴³ *W. Radcliffe: Op. cit.* P. 357.

²⁴⁴ *W. Radcliffe: Op. cit.* pp. 356, 358. Strangely enough it would seem as if no Assyrian word for fish-hook were known, although *hahu* (thorn), like the Hebrew word *hoach*, means both "thorn" and "fish-hook". (Langden in Radcliffe, pp. 356).

²⁴⁵ *O. Bates: Op. cit.* P. 249.

²⁴⁶ *J. Heierli: Urgeschichte der Schweiz.* Zürich 1901. Pp. 118, 158, 217, 223, 229. Cf. *L. Rüttimeyer: Urethnographie der Schweiz.* Basel 1924. P. 113.

²⁴⁷ *W. Radcliffe: Op. cit.* P. 313.

Okuanjama, the tribes of the White Nile region as a whole (Boulenger), the Harti and Ogaden in Kismayu. Direct evidence as to the European origin of the hook thus — as we have seen — exists mainly as regards West Africa,²⁴⁸ that is, precisely that portion of the Dark Continent where European influence may most readily be excepted. For this reason I am of the opinion that all along the western coast and in the Congo territory — excepting as regards the Jaunde, Jukun(?) and Baja — fish-hooks are to be considered an European culture element. As to the Jaunde, it has, according to Tessmann, been stated by them that they knew fishing with hook prior to the arrival of Europeans. The possibility of a loan from the coastal areas may thus, perhaps, be precluded. But as the Baja have received their hooks from the Hausa, it appears probable that the Hausa influence also extended to the Jaunde. Besides, the Hausa words for fishing implements connected with hooks reappear, as we have seen; among the Jukun and Yauri. From this we are, perhaps, justified in inferring that the above mentioned tribes once upon a time were using "Hausa-hooks",²⁴⁹ though subsequently these were exchanged for European ones, while, however, the old names were allowed to survive?

In the White Nile region and southern Africa it is also necessary to make allowance for European influence, at least to a certain extent.

As regards material, the hooks are for the most part of iron, although in the Congo meets with hooks of wood or other material from the vegetable kingdom. In addition there are two bone hooks, of which the one originating from the Nuer is of great interest because of the in many respects so archaic culture of the White Nile region. With a certain

²⁴⁸ It may be pointed out that — according to Gruvel — in West Africa fishing with rod probable is the most common fishingmethod (*Der Fischfang der Eingeborenen in den Kolonien Westafrikas*). Petermanns Mitteilungen 1911. P. 238.

²⁴⁹ From the Hausa I have no material available, and am therefore unable to determine whence they have obtained their hooks. It may however well be supposed that they are of European origin.

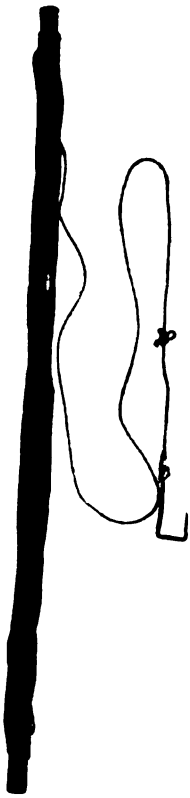
degree of probability this hook may perhaps be referred back to Egyptian influence, but on the other hand there have so far been recovered no bone hooks in Egypt.²⁵⁰ It is also worthy of note that no hooks have archaeologically been discovered in Africa (with the exception of Egypt, the Mediterranean coast and the Canary Islands), by which it may be inferred that fishing with a hook cannot have been very anciently established in Africa.

That the crocodile hooks have evolved from fish-hooks is evident from the account relating to Yukun, as well as from the Yauri-hook, fig. 12. If we assume that European fish-hooks, or types of hooks, have been in use in the more important of the communities on the Mediterranean coast of Africa at least in the 19th century, the results of the present inquiry might be summed up as follows.²⁵¹

1. With exception for East-Africa and Congo where fish-hooks are indigenous, they are brought to Africa by European and Arabian traders.
2. In western Africa can be made out an area where the Hausa have spread European(?) hooks to certain tribes, and
3. crocodile hooks were formed upon the model of fish-hooks.

²⁵⁰ *Bates: Op. cit.* P. 249.

²⁵¹ Exception is however made for Egypt, the Canary Islands, Africa north of Lat. 30N, and Madagascar. On Madagascar it is conceivable, as already mentioned, that certain influence may have been received from the South Sea Islands. On the Canaries, fish-hooks were known in very early times (*E. A. Hooton: The ancient inhabitants of the Canary Islands. Harvard Africa Studies VII. Cambridge 1925, p. 298*), and in parts of the Mediterranean coast fish-hooks may be supposed to be of equal antiquity.



*Fig. 1. Cameroon. Col-
lection Dusén. (Length
of the rod 74 cm.)
Riksmuseum, Stockholm.*



*Fig. 3.
Mundang
(after Macleod.)*



*Fig. 2. Southern Ca-
meroon. Collection
Siebert.
Museum für Völkerkunde,
Leipzig, (Scale 2:5).*

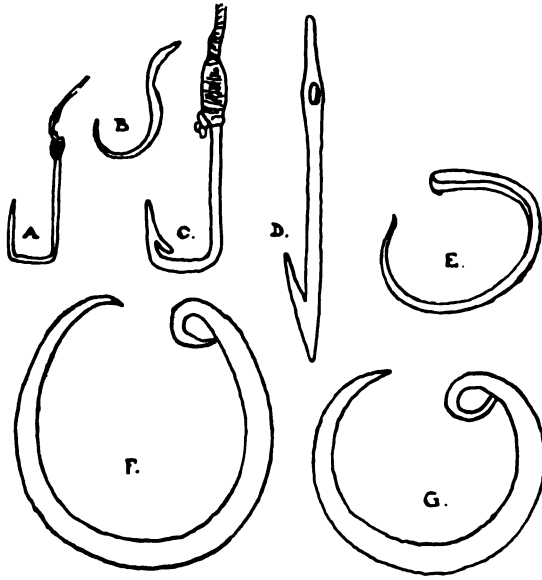


Fig. 4. A) Mukinjaga (after Czekanowski). B) Baila (after Smith and Dale). C-D) Warena (after Stuhlmann). E) Bakondjo (after Czekanowski). F-G) Batwa of Bangweolo. Collection v. Rosen (12. 6. 269 279) Riksmuseum, Stockholm.



Fig. 5. Babwende, Collection Hammar. Riksmuseum.



Fig. 6. Basundi. Riksmuseum.



*Fig. 7. Waheia. Collection Meyer.
Museum für Völkerkunde,
Leipzig.*



*Fig. 8. Washashi. Collection Kollmann.
Museum für Völkerkunde, Leipzig.*

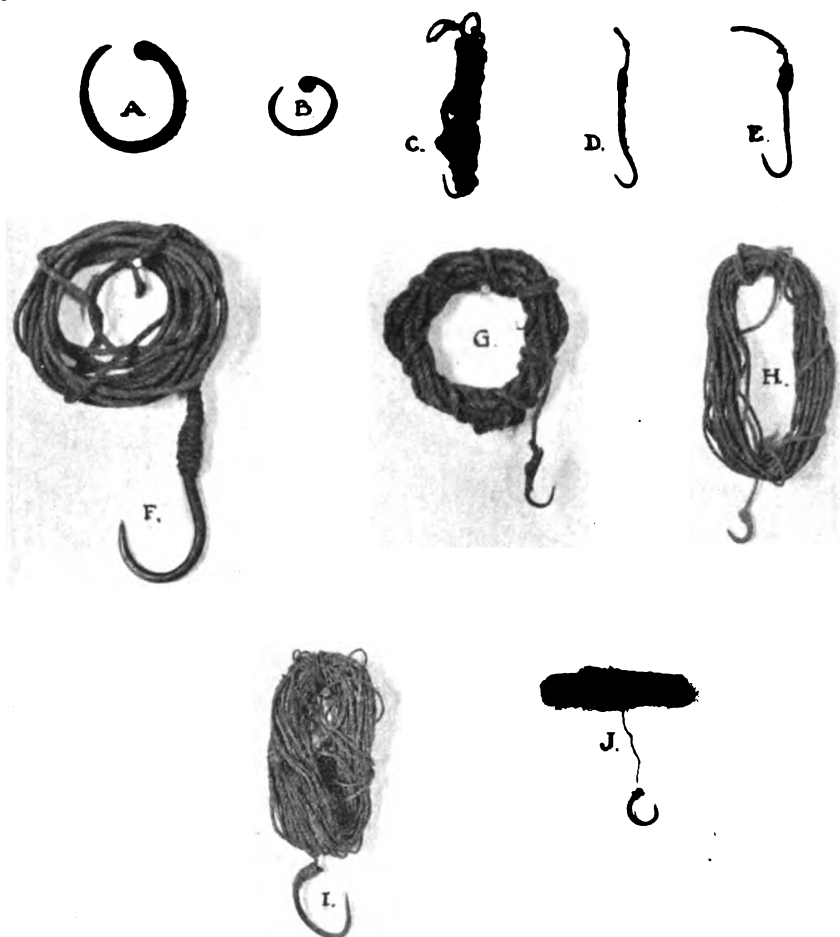


Fig. 9. A—E) Baushi.
Collection v. Rosen, Riksmuseum.
F—H) Wahake, I—J) Taveta.
Collection Lindblom, Riksmuseum.

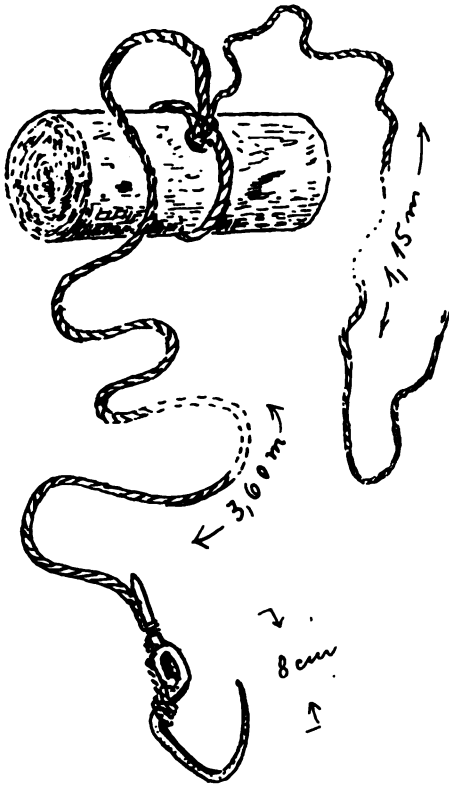


Fig. 10. Shilluk. Collection Berghof.
Museum für Völkerkunde, Leipzig.



Fig. 12. Crocodile
hook, Yauri, Ni-
geria (after
Harris).

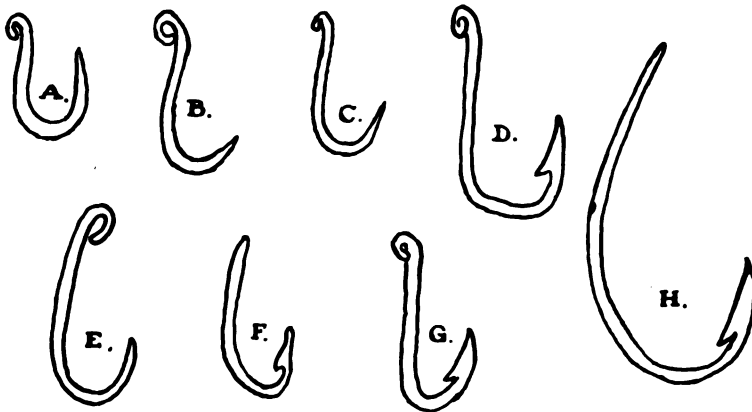


Fig. 11. Egypt (Bates).

A) Predynastic, B) late predynastic or early dynastic, C—D) middle kingdom, E—F) new kingdom, G) late period, H) modern.

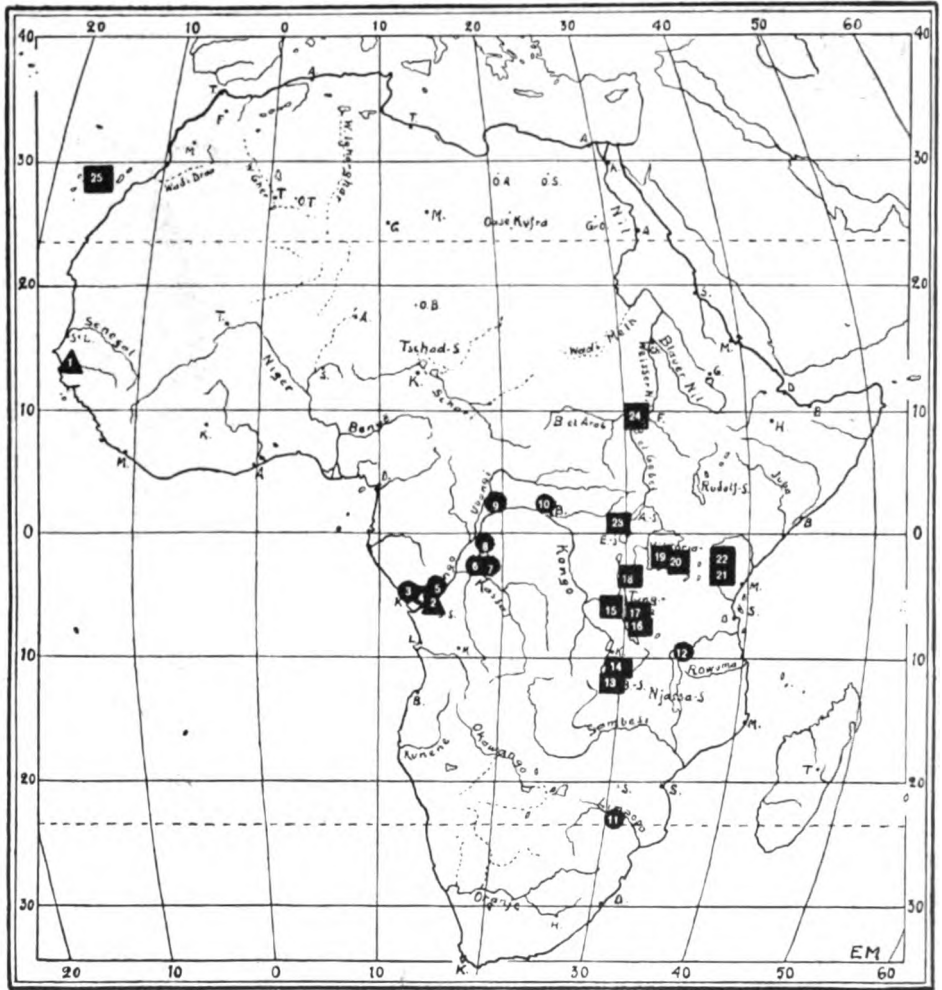


Fig. 13. Gorges and round hooks in Africa.

Gorges: 1. Gambia (locality not specified), 2. Bakongo. **More developed gorges and wooden hooks** (fig. 5, 6): 3. Bavili, 4. Basundi, 5. Bahwende, 6. Wadia, 7. Tumba, 8. Bolia, 9. Bangala, 10. Basoko, 11. Bavenda, 12. Wakisi, **Round hooks** (fig. 9, A, B): 13. Baushi, 14. Batwa, 15. Wafipa, 16. Wabende, 17. Wagoma, 18. Barundi, 19. Wakerewe, 20. Washashi, 21. Wakahe, 22. Wataweta, 23. Bakondjo, 24. Shilluk, 25. The Canaries.

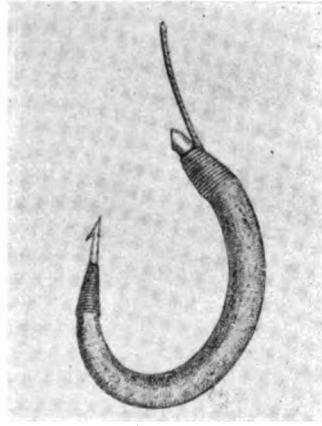


Fig. 14. The Canaries (after Verneau).

